

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method carried out at a music file storage data center, comprising:
 - receiving from a first customer a request to store a music file representing a musical selection;
 - storing ~~the music file~~ ~~a music file~~ representing the musical selection ~~a musical selection~~ for access by the first ~~a first~~ customer, wherein the storing is carried out as a response to the request to store the music file ~~user~~;
 - mapping the first customer ~~user~~ to the music file so that the first customer can have access to the music file;
 - mapping at least one other customer who wishes to have access to ~~other users who wish to store~~ the musical selection to the music file;
 - receiving a request from any of the mapped customers ~~users~~ for playback of the music file; and
 - transmitting the music file to the customer ~~user~~ that sent the request for playback, using wireless transmission, as a streaming music file.
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising paying a royalty for use of the music file.
4. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, further comprising charging each of the customers ~~users~~ mapped to the music file a fee for storage of the music file.
5. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, further comprising charging the customer ~~user~~ that sent the request for playback a fee for transmitting the music file to the customer ~~user~~ that sent the request for playback.

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6. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, further comprising uploading the music file from the first customer user prior to the storing.

7. (Original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising obtaining the music file from a commercial music source prior to the storing.

8. (Original) The method according to claim 7, further comprising paying a royalty for use of the music file.

9. (Previously Presented) An electronic storage medium storing instructions which, when executed on a programmed processor, carry out a method, comprising:

storing a music file representing a musical selection for a first user;

mapping the first user to the music file;

mapping other users who wish to store the musical selection to the music file;

receiving a request from any of the mapped users for playback of the music file; and

transmitting the music file to the user that sent the request for playback, using wireless transmission, as a streaming music file.

10. (Previously Presented) The electronic storage medium according to claim 9, further comprising:

receiving from the first user a request to store the music file; and

wherein the storing is carried out as a response to the request to store the music file.

11. (Previously Presented) The electronic storage medium according to claim 9, further comprising charging each of the users mapped to the music file a fee for storage of the music file.

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12. (Previously Presented) The electronic storage medium according to claim 9, further comprising charging the user that sent the request for playback a fee for transmitting the music file to the user that sent the request for playback.

13. (Previously Presented) The electronic storage medium according to claim 9, further comprising uploading the music file from the first user prior to the storing.

14. (Original) The electronic storage medium according to claim 9, further comprising obtaining the music file from a commercial music source prior to the storing.

15. (Previously Presented) A data center, comprising:

a content server that stores music files for a plurality of users;

means for mapping a first user to the music file;

means for mapping other users who wish to store the musical selection to the music file;

means for receiving a request from the first user for playback of the music file; and

means for transmitting the music file to the first user for playback, using wireless transmission, as a streaming music file.

16. (Previously Presented) The data center according to claim 15, wherein the means for receiving further comprises:

means for receiving from the first user a request to store the music file; and

wherein the storing is carried out as a response to the request to store the music file.

17. (Previously Presented) The data center according to claim 15, further comprising means for charging each of the users a fee for storage of the music file.

18. (Previously Presented) The data center according to claim 15, further comprising means for charging the first user a fee for transmitting the music file to the first user.

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19. (Previously Presented) The data center according to claim 15, further comprising means for uploading the music file from the first user prior to the storing.

20. (Previously Presented) The data center medium according to claim 15, further comprising means for obtaining the music file from a commercial music source prior to the storing.

21.-28. (Cancelled)

29. (Previously Presented) A method for efficiently storing music files at a data center, comprising:

- receiving from a first user a request to store a music file representing a musical selection; responsive to receipt of the request, obtaining the music file from a commercial music source and storing the music file representing the musical selection for the first user;

- paying a royalty to the commercial music source for the music file;

- mapping the first user to the music file;

- receiving a request from a second user to store the music file representing the musical selection;

- responsive to the request from the second user to store the music file representing the musical selection, mapping second user to the music file;

- charging the first and second users mapped to the music file a fee for storage of the music file;

- receiving a request from either one of the mapped users for playback of the music file;

- transmitting the music file to the user that sent the request for playback, using wireless transmission, as a streaming music file;

- charging the user that sent the request for playback a fee for transmitting the music file to the user that sent the request for playback.

30. (Previously Presented) A data center for efficiently storing music files, comprising:

- a content server that stores music files for a plurality of users;

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means for receiving from a first user a request to store the music file;
wherein the storing is carried out as a response to the request to store the music file from a first user;
means for uploading the music file from the first user prior to the storing in the event the user wishes to upload the music file;
means for obtaining the music file from a commercial music source in the event the first user wishes for the data center to obtain a copy of the music file;
means for payment of a royalty for storage of the music file;
means for mapping the first user to the music file;
wherein the mapping means maps other users who wish to store the musical selection to the music file;
means for charging each of the mapped users a fee for storage of the music file
means for receiving a request from any of the users for playback of the music file;
means for transmitting the music file to the first user for playback, using wireless transmission, as a streaming music file;
means for charging the first user a fee for transmitting the music file to the first user.

31. (New) A method carried out at a music file storage data center, comprising:
receiving from a first customer a request to store a music file representing a musical selection;
storing the music file representing the musical selection for access by the first customer, wherein the storing is carried out as a response to the request to store the music file;
mapping the first customer to the music file so that the first customer can have access to the music file;
determining that at least one other customer wishes to have access to the musical selection;
mapping the at least one other customer who wishes to have access to the musical selection to the music file;
receiving a request from any of the mapped customers for playback of the music file; and

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transmitting the music file to the customer that sent the request for playback, using wireless transmission, as a streaming music file.

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